

Case No.: 53934US010

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OCT 2 9 2003

First Named Inventor:

FOLTZ, WILLIAM E.

Application No.:

10/014736

Group Art Unit:

1651

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed:

December 11, 2001

Examiner:

Ralph J. Gitomer

Title:

STERILIZATION INDICATOR WITH CHEMICALLY

STABILIZED ENZYME

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 c

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed October 6, 2003. Claims 1-88 are pending. Claims 1-88 were restricted under 35 USC § 121 as follows:

- Claims 1-15, 43-56 are said to be drawn to a sterilization indicator with I. biological and chemical components, classified in class 435, subclass 287.6;
- Claims 16-27 are said to be drawn to an indicator with a container, classified in class 435, subclass 287.6;
- Claims 28-42, 86, 88 are said to be drawn to a method for testing sterilization, III. classified in class 435, subclass 288.5;
- Claims 71-98, 57-84 are said to be drawn to a lumen challenge test pack with a IV. tray, classified in class 435, subclass 188.
- Claims 85, 87 are said to be drawn to a method for stabilizing enzymes, V. classified in class 435, subclass 188.

#### Election

In response, Applicants elect Group II, claims 16-27, without traverse.

#### Conclusion

Applicants have elected Group II, claims 16-27 without traverse. Continued prosecution of this application is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number with questions that can be resolved with a simple teleconference.

Respectfully submitted,

Oct. 22, 2003

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Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
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